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EDMONTON, Oct. 6 - Boris Poteenko, 41-year-old
former chief nuclear scientist at the Ukrainian Academy of Sciences
in Kiev, said yesterday night he will not return to the Soviet
Union and wishes to live in Canada.
Poteenko came 2nd graf
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KURENKO, a Soviet physicist, 61, reportedly former chief nuclear scientist at the Ukrainian Academy of Sciences in Kiev, said that day night he will not return to the Soviet Union and wishes to live in Canada.

Dotsenko came to the University of Alberta a year ago on 10 months' leave from his position as head of the nuclear laboratory at Kiev State University.

He said in an interview that he applied to the Canadian immigration department two months ago and was granted a one-year extension of his stay in Canada, plus a promise that his application for permanent residence here will be considered at the end of the one-year period.

Dotsenko said he has had visits from Soviet Embassy officials who attempted to persuade him to return to his home country. He said he had rejected the officials' attempts.

Dotsenko was reportedly temporarily employed at the nuclear research center at the University of Alberta. He said his reasons for staying in Canada are both professional and political, with the professional reasons the more compelling.

Dotsenko declined to talk about his personal life in the Soviet Union but said his decision to leave his homeland was made only after "much soul-searching."

"The main point is that I am a scientist and in the conditions here in Canada I can work far more effectively. There is a far more... really, I am not afraid to use the word... there is a far more democratic approach here."

He said in the Soviet Union there was too much emphasis on nuclear research that would have some immediate practical effect and not enough on abstract research-research for the purpose of expanding the body of knowledge in a field, regardless of practicality.

"I am only human, and I could be wrong, but I think it is not a proper way to go about scientific research," he said. Dotsenko also complained he was required too often to conduct his work along lines dictated by other authorities and said the approach in the Soviet Union was too much one of "do what you are told."

"As a famous scientist, Niels Bohr, once said, you need to have some 'crazy ideas' sometimes. These are not appreciated in the Soviet Union," he said.

Refer now to the 1962 Nobel Prize in physics for research into the structure of the atom.

Although Dotsenko said political considerations were less important, he commented, "the political system of Canada is more in accord with my own thinking."

If he is denied permission to stay permanently in Canada, he said, he will live elsewhere outside the Soviet bloc.

Revised Oct.